

*Forts*

## Marker Number Twenty-One HISTORY OF FORT ALMA

Monroe, Utah

July 24, 1937



"This marker was placed in commemoration of the Pioneer Fort, built here in 1866 as a protection from the Indians, who were hostile at that time. The pioneers built their homes inside the fort, also a place of worship that was used many years after the fort was abandoned.

"A few years after the first pioneers came to Utah a band of these worthy people, about thirty in number, journeyed south to Sevier County seeking a location to build homes for their families.

"They settled about ten miles south of Richfield and laid plans for a town, which at that time they called Alma—later Monroe."—(Marker Inscription)

### FORT ALMA

The Indians were very hostile at this time, and to remain in this locality they would need some means of protection, so they decided, while still living in their temporary dugouts, to build a fort. The rock for this structure was gathered from the nearby hills. The homes, built of logs, and very close together, formed the three sides of this structure.

On the east side which held the main entrance was a rock wall ten feet high which extended around their public cow corral which was used to protect their cattle.

It took nine months to build the fort. It was completed in the fall of 1866. A few of the people who lived in the fort during the winter were there for the protection it gave them. They never settled in the vicinity.

The house that was built inside these walls for public gatherings was used for that purpose long after the fort was abandoned. After all the effort they had put forth for this protection, it did not last long. The Indians became so hostile a call came from Brigham Young to vacate their place of abode and move into the larger settlements. This was done but they used the fort for temporary homes when they came back in the years of 1871-72.